



Verification: Dealing with the top issues for 2018-19 Q & A April 5, 2018

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Question	Answer
1. A student was single when she filed her 2016 taxes; she was married when she filed her Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2018-19. Does she need to include her spouse's information?	Yes; student marital status should be reported as of the date the FAFSA is submitted. Her spouse's income and asset information must be included.
2. Please confirm the date which should be on letters of non-filing from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to complete verification for 2018-19.	For the purpose of completing verification, a letter of non-filing obtained from the IRS must be dated after October 1, 2017.
3. Is the Department of Education (ED) now allowing marital status to be updated after a student submits the FAFSA?	<p>A school may allow a student to update his or her marital status if it believes the update is necessary to address an inequity or to more accurately reflect the applicant's ability to pay. See 668.55(c).</p> <p>A school cannot update the marital status of the parents of a dependent student during verification if the status was correct when the FAFSA was filed. A financial aid administrator must exercise his or her professional judgment authority to make a change to parental marital status.</p>
4. What should a school do if the parents of a dependent student indicated they are married on the FAFSA and filed their taxes as married filing separately, but now indicate they are separated?	A financial aid administrator may exercise his or her professional judgment authority in this situation. He or she should determine which parent is the student's parent of record for FAFSA purposes. With documentation, the financial aid administrator should then remove the other parent's information from the FAFSA.

Question	Answer
<p>5. How do we complete verification for a student who is not required to file a return and does not have a copy of his W-2?</p>	<p>If the student worked for a company, he can request W-2 information from the IRS using Form 4506-T (Option 8). If the IRS cannot provide W-2 information or the student did not work for a company, a school may complete verification by having the student submit a signed statement which includes the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of income earned from work; • Source of that income; and • Why the W-2 is not available.
<p>6. Will Comment Codes 400 and 401 result in a C-Flag? Also, if I understand right, some schools are going ahead and flagging for verification the ISIR Flag 06 & 07. Correct?</p>	<p>Comment Codes 400 and 401 do not generate a C-Flag on an ISIR.</p> <p>To resolve ISIR Data Flag 06, a school could select an application for verification and verify the transaction as if it was placed in the V1 verification tracking group. Collecting and reviewing the documentation needed to complete verification would allow a school to determine if an applicant's filing status and income information are correct.</p> <p>To resolve ISIR Data Flag 07, a school should require an applicant to submit both an IRS transcript and a signed copy of the 1040X submitted to the IRS. Simply selecting the applicant for verification will not resolve ISIR Data Flag 7 since a copy of the amended return is needed to resolve the flag.</p>
<p>7. Where are the handouts located?</p>	<p>The handouts are located at mappingyourfuture.org/Downloads/VerificationTopIssuesFor201819.pdf and mappingyourfuture.org/Downloads/VerificationTopIssuesFor201819_handout.pdf.</p>
<p>8. Is this webinar being recorded?</p>	<p>The webinar recording is located at mappingyourfuture.org/services/webinararchive.cfm.</p>